### **Capsule Summary**

Inventory No. CARR-118 David J. Roop Farm 2307 Uniontown Road Carroll County, MD 1820s-1970s Access: Private

The two-story brick farmhouse on the David J. Roop Farm faces the Uniontown Road to the north. A distinctive galleried porch graces the main façade. A log and frame summer kitchen includes a spring and a fireplace with a bake oven. Several other timber frame outbuildings and a bank barn complete the farmstead. The grounds are shaded by the three largest cottonwood trees in the State of Maryland.

The David J. Roop Farm is built around a distinctive 1857 brick house. The dwelling is said to have been built by David Roop for his son David J. Roop upon his marriage to Henrietta Ocker. The farm was occupied by Roop for sixty years. The house stands on part of the tract "Dear Bought" owned by Thomas and Hannah Boyer in the 1820's. A versatile summer kitchen with a rare bake oven, a large bank barn, and several other outbuildings contribute to this significant mid-19th century farmstead.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of I	Property	(indicate preferred na	ame)		
historic	David J. Roop Farm (	MIHP update)			
other	Dear Bought (early tr	act name); Blue Ridge	Farm (modern name)		
2. Location					
street and number	2307 Uniontown Roa	d			not for publication
city, town	Westminster			<u>X</u>	vicinity
county	Carroll				
3. Owner of	Property	(gives names and ma	ailing addresses of all	owners)	
name	Betty Grier				
street and number	2307 Uniontown Roa	d		Telephone	
city, town	Westminster		state MD	zip code	21158-3753
4. Location	of Legal Desc	cription			
courthouse, registry	of deeds, etc. Carro	ll Co. Courthouse	liber 1	400 Folio	832
city, town	Westminster	tax map 37	tax parcel 444	tax II	number unknown
5. Primary L	ocation of Ac	ditional Data	1		
Contri Deterr Deterr Recor	buting Resource in Nati buting Resource in Loc nined Eligible for the Na nined Ineligible for the I ded by HABS/HAER ic Structure Report or R	al Historic District ational Register/Maryla National Register/Mary	land Register		
6. Classifica	ition				
Category O district X building(s) > structure site object	public X ag     private	of Function priculture primerce/trade efense primestic ducation prerary povernment ealth care dustry	landscape recreation/culture Religion Social transportation work in progress unknown vacant/not in use other:		Noncontributing  0 buildings sites structures objects 0 Total  ntributing Resources ed in the Inventory

7. Description		Inventory No.	CARR-118
Condition			
X excellent _	Deteriorated		
good	Ruins		
fair	Altered		

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

#### Summary:

The two-story brick farmhouse on the David J. Roop Farm faces the Uniontown Road to the north. A distinctive galleried porch graces the main façade. A log and frame summer kitchen includes a spring and a fireplace with a bake oven. Several other timber frame outbuildings and a bank barn complete the farmstead. The grounds are shaded by the three largest cottonwood trees in the State of Maryland.

### Description:

The David J. Roop Farm is located on the south side of the Uniontown Road about two miles east of Uniontown. This road runs east-west from Westminster. The two-story brick farmhouse faces the road to the north. A log and timber frame summer kitchen stands at the edge of the road northeast of the house. A timber frame bank barn is located southwest of the house. Four timber frame outbuildings complete the farm complex.

As the land slopes downhill to the east, the stone cellar of the 1857 farmhouse is exposed at this end. A galleried porch covers the five-bay north front and a one-story porch crosses the three-bay rear. These porches retain their original appearance as seen in an 1890 photograph.

The slightly modified Georgian floor plan has a central stair hall with a pair of unequally sized parlors at either side. The southeast parlor runs behind the truncated hall. A central rear entrance opens into this room. The two eastern rooms are heated by corner fireplaces with slightly pedimented mantels. This shape also tops the architraves. The stair features a heavy turned newel post, tapered round balusters, and curving decorated step ends. The northwest parlor has a more usual straight-facing fireplace. The room has been enlarged by moving back the south wall. Original pine floors are found throughout the house.

The second floor plan is similar. At the stair landing sets of two steps lead into each of the back bedrooms and into the upper hallway. The northeast chamber's chimney block is decorated with a mantel, but as it does not have a fireplace the masonry probably served as a flue for a wood stove. The upper hall's central door opens onto the front porch. The porch ceiling is plastered and set with iron rings to hold a clothesline.

Either side of the cellar has a door to the east and a window to the west. The west end of either the front and back porch serves as a brick-walled storage space.

The square front porch posts are joined by vertical balusters on the first level and by both criss-crossed and straight balusters at the second level. A gate and steps seen in the historic photo at the west end are not extant.

The building's masonry is laid in all-stretcher bond. The coat of white paint first applied over the red brick in the 1890's is naturally weathering off leaving a subtle mottled finish. The dwelling's 6/6 sash windows protected by aluminum storm windows are spanned by straight brick arches. The front entrances have sidelights, paneled jambs, and double doors covered by

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name David J. Roop Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

louvered storm doors. The farmhouse and the other farm buildings are covered by metal roofs. In the historic photo these roofs are wood-shingled.

The two-story summer kitchen comprises a log springhouse to the east and a timber frame bake house to the west. The outbuilding stands on a stone foundation. A brick chimney with a stone-based bake oven adjoins the west end. A shed-roofed extension protects the bake oven. A deep porch covers the entire south side of the building.

The central sliding door on the south side opens into a stair hall in the bake house. Another sliding door with tapered battens leads several steps down into the log section where a brick trough accommodates the spring. A batten door from the hall opens into the main room of the bake house. This room has a brick fireplace with a brick hearth at the west end. The northwest corner of the room opens into the shed with the squirrel tail back of the bake oven. The opening at the front of the bake oven is located at its south side under the open porch.

The v-notched log walls of the springhouse are exposed. Historically they were covered with siding and whitewashed. The north and west walls of the bake house and shed are covered with board and batten siding. The southwest corner is covered with whitewashed wide horizontal lapped siding which may predate the board and batten treatment. 6/6, 6/3, and four-pane windows light the summer kitchen. An unusually tiny two-pane window lights the stairwell's north side.

The summer kitchen was used for baking, canning, butchering, and similar purposes. The second floor was used for repairing harnesses. The spring reportedly was not consistently active and another spring to the east in the field provided a more reliable water source. This spring is still protected by a small cover.

Two small timber frame outbuildings, a wood shed and a smoke house, stand east of the farmhouse. The board and batten covered woodshed has a southern door. A small outhouse adjoins this side. The smokehouse is covered with German siding and has a western entrance.

A timber frame wagon shed with corncrib sides stands along the drive west of the house. It stands on a stone and concrete foundation. An open southern extension shelters farm equipment. The north side of the building is covered with horizontal siding while the remainder is covered with vertical boards.

A 36'square hay barn is located east of the bank barn. The foundation of the timber frame structure has been rebuilt in concrete. Two doors open at each end of the building which is ventilated with louvered panels and covered with vertical boards. Sheep were housed in the barn with hay stored above.

The bank barn's forebay faces east. The barn measures approximately 95' long by 45' wide. The western ramp provides access to the haymow through two large sets of doors. Small four-pane windows light this side. A granary is located at either end. The barn stands on a stone foundation except for the south end of the lower level's east side which is built in brick. The wall under the forebay has several doors and louvered vents. The interior has a walkway around the perimeter and is fitted with hay racks and grain feeders. The barn is covered with vertical boards.

### Inventory No. CARR-118

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name David J. Roop Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

A window flanked with louvers appears at the top of either gable end. As seen in the historical photo the barn was once topped with two louvered cupolas.

The house and outbuildings remain in nearly original condition. They have been well restored and maintained. The grounds are shaded by the three largest cottonwood trees in the State of Maryland.

8. Signification	ance		Inven	tory No. CARR-118
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and just	fy below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	X agriculture archeology X architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates	1820s-1970s	A	rchitect/Builder Unknown	
Construction date	es 1857			
Evaluation for:				
	National Register	Mary	rland Register X	not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### Summary:

The David J. Roop Farm is built around a distinctive 1857 brick house. The dwelling is said to have been built by David Roop for his son David J. Roop upon his marriage to Henrietta Ocker. The farm was occupied by Roop for sixty years. The house stands on part of the tract "Dear Bought" owned by Thomas and Hannah Boyer in the 1820's. A versatile summer kitchen with a rare bake oven, a large bank barn, and several other outbuildings contribute to this significant mid-19<sup>th</sup> century farmstead.

Note: For Historical Context, please refer to *An Agricultural History of Mid-Maryland*, a Maryland Historical Trust grant funded context development project administered through The Catoctin Center for Regional Studies, 2002-2003.

#### Significance:

The David J. Roop Farm is located on the Uniontown Road, which was improved in the 1820's as the first section of the Westminster and Hagerstown Turnpike. The road became known as the Uniontown Turnpike Road. This property, part of the tract "Dear Bought", was owned by Thomas and Hannah Boyer at that time. In the 1825 Tax Assessment Thomas Boyer was listed with 292 acres of "Dear Bought" with a log house and barn. It is not known whether the Roop farm is the site of the Boyers' settlement, nor whether the summer kitchen was one of their buildings.

David Roop purchased the majority of the tract from the Boyers in 1832.<sup>2</sup> Family tradition states that he built the house for his son David J.Roop in 1857 as a gift upon his marriage to Henrietta Ocker. David sold 234 acres 2 rods 37 perches of the tract to his son David J. Roop in 1863 for \$9,389.25.<sup>3</sup> Roop cultivated corn and wheat and raised sheep and cows on

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name David J. Roop Farm Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

the farm. David J. Roop's sixty-year tenure on the farm ended with his death in 1921. In 1952 the Roop family sold the farm to the B.F. Shriver Company. The property, then called "Blue Ridge Farm", was used to raise vegetables for the company's canning operations, and the house was leased to tenants. In 1976 George A. and Betty Grier purchased the house and 11 acres, working for years to restore the house and farm buildings, installing the first modern amenities such as plumbing and wiring. George Grier died in 2002, and at this writing in June, 2003, Betty is selling the farm that they so meticulously preserved.

In 1880 the Roop family was enumerated in the U.S. Census with David J. Roop (45), "farmer", his wife Henrietta (47), and their four sons and four daughters, ranging in age from 8 to 22. Although the children were designated as at "home" rather than the common "works on farm", it seems likely that at least the older children were, indeed, working on the farm.

Two historic photographs in the possession of the Grier family depict the David J. Roop Farm in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. One photo seems to date from circa 1890 with the house still appearing in red brick, before its 1890's coat of white paint. Roop and his unidentified family members and farm hands appear with horses and farm wagons in a field of cows. The thoroughly whitewashed summer kitchen looks much the same as today, except for a covering of siding over the logs. Board fencing encloses the field, and wood shingles cover the roofs of the outbuildings.

The second photo must have been taken circa 1895, after the house was painted. Here David J. and Henrietta Roop sit in rocking chairs in front of the house, accompanied by daughters Fannie and Annie, hired girl Bessie Ecker, and four young men who may be sons or farm hands. A picket fence separates the back dooryard from the barnyard. The house with its distinctive porches looks very much as it does today, although the louvered shutters have not survived.

In David J. Roop's later years he was cared for at home. The small southwest room on the first floor was his bedroom. The story is told that a pet chicken jumped up on his bed every morning and laid one egg.<sup>7</sup>

The farmhouse is an excellent example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century construction. It is unusual in its lack of successive additions, but the dwelling seems to have been of a sufficient size to accommodate the Roop family, and the multi-purpose summer kitchen precluded the need for adjoining service sections. Several other local farmhouses of this era are said to have been built for David J. Roop's siblings. The summer kitchen is especially significant for its several stages of construction and the multitude of activities it accommodated. The very well-built bake oven is an unusual survivor of its type.

The barn is currently used for storage. The buildings remain in excellent condition.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CARR-118

Frederick Co. MD Land Records and Wills.

Carroll Co. MD Land Records and Wills.

Horvath, George J. Jr. The Particular Assessment Lists for Baltimore and Carroll Counties 1798. Silver Spring, MD: Family Line Publications, 1986.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia: Lewis H. Everts, 1882.

Tracey, Arthur G. Notes on Early Maryland Land Patents: Historical Society of Carroll Co., Westminster, MD.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property

13.23 acres

Acreage of historical setting

13.23 acres

Quadrangle name

New Windsor

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

#### Verbal boundary description and justification

The surveyed property is described in Carroll Co. Land Records 1400/832.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title Merry Stinson, Architectural Historian	
organization Paula S. Reed & Associates, Inc.	date June, 2003
street & number 105 N. Potomac Street	telephone 301-739-2070
city or town Hagerstown	state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

DHCD/DHCP

100 Community Place

Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

410-514-7600

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Name David J. Roop Farm Continuation Sheet

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<sup>1</sup> 1825 Tax Assessment, Frederick Co.

<sup>4</sup> Carroll Co. Inventories WA25/283, 1921.

6 Carroll Co. Land Records 625/518, 1976.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Frederick Co. Land Records JS42/196, 1832.

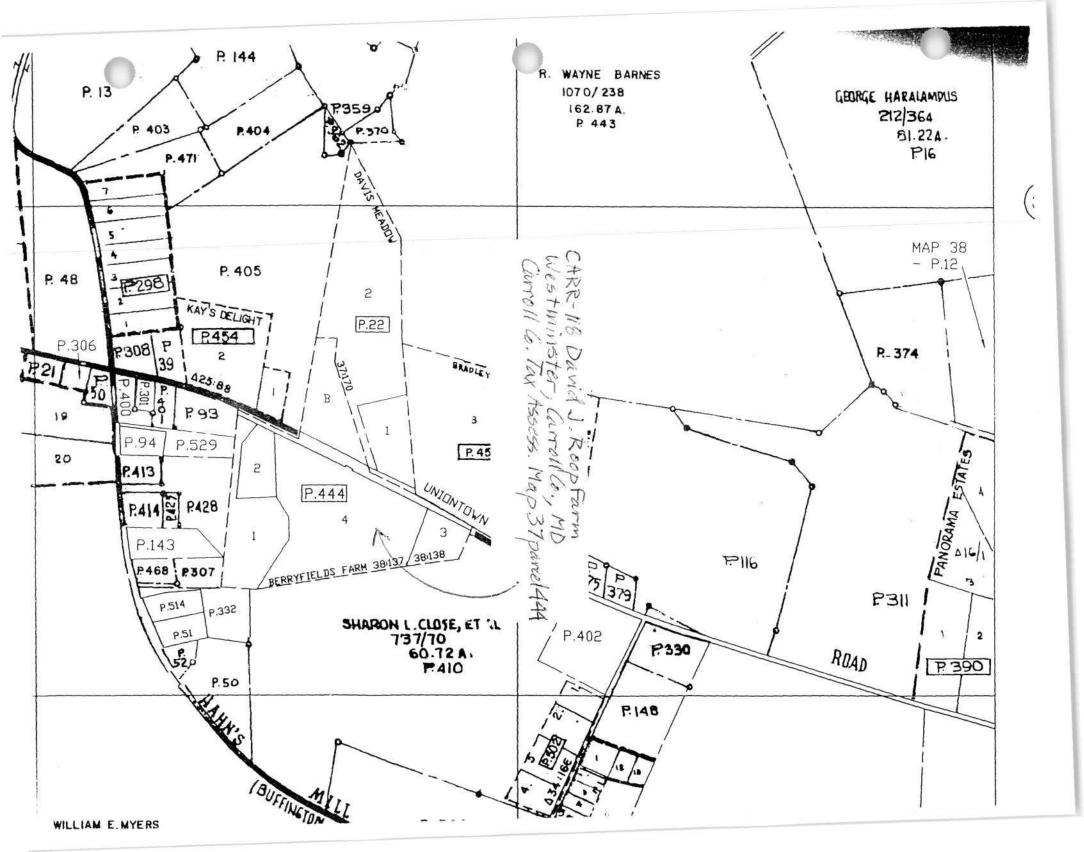
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Carroll Co. Land Records GEW30/346, 1863.

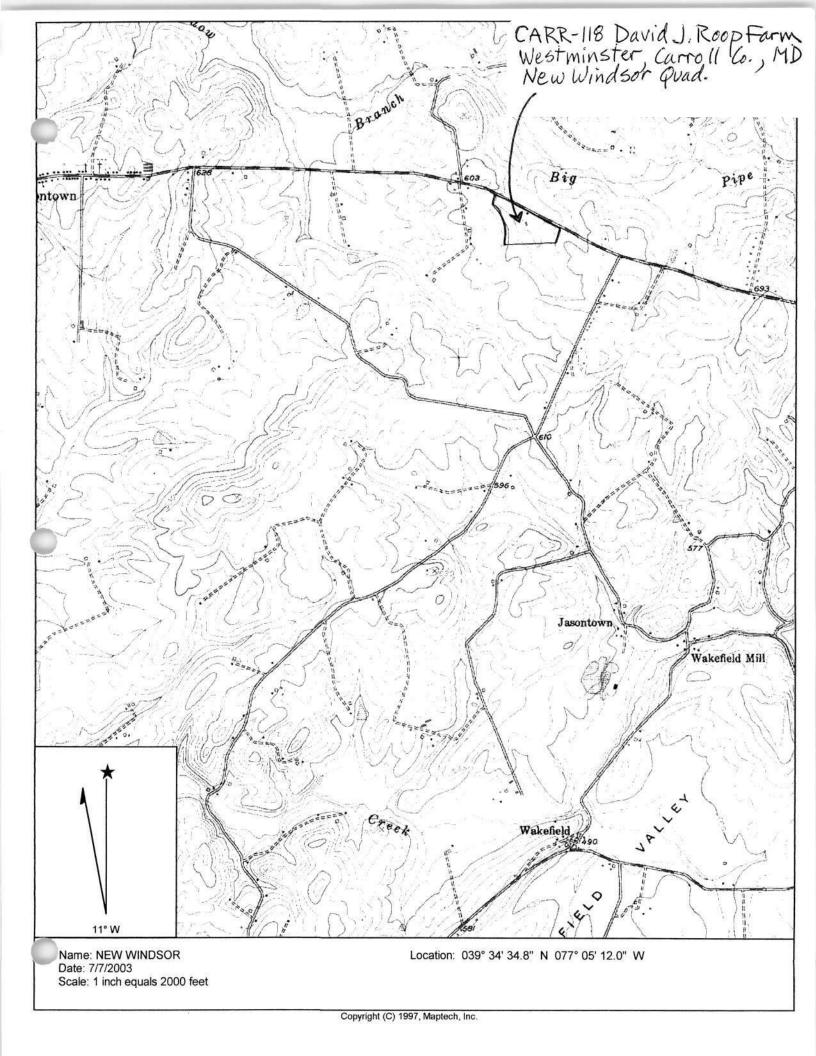
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "M.L.B.", "Blue Ridge Farm, The Home of George A. and Betty Grier" in Monocacy Bancshares, Inc., Annual Report, (Westminster, MD:1994.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Roop photos and family information provided by Betty Grier, April, 2003.

CARR-118 David J. Roop Farm Westminster, Carroll Co. , MD Merry Stinson 6/2003 Site Plan hay barn wagon shed barn = 5 moke house woodshed Former chicken house spring in field summer Kitchen Farmhouse









CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Co. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD BHPO
Circa 1890 shoto
1/13



CARR-118 David J. Roop Farm Carroll 6. MD Merry Stinson 4/03 MD SHPO North elev.



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll G. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD SHPO
Nelev.
3/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll G. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 15HPO
Circa 1895 photo
4/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Go. MD
Merry Stinson 9/03
MD 15HPO
5. elev.
5/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Co. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 1SHPO
Summer Kitchen: E: Nelevs
6/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Go. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 15HPO
Summer Kitchen: Weley.

7/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Co. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD SHPO
Summer Kitchen: S. elev,

00



CARR-118 David J. Roop Farm Carroll 6. MD Merry Stinson 4/03 MD SHPO Summer kitchen: bakeou



CARR-118
David J. Roof Farm
Carroll Co. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 15HPD
Wagan Shed: E. elev.
10/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Co. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 15HPO
hay barn: N& Welevs,
11/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll Go. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 154PO
Barn: E elev.
12/13



CARR-118
David J. Roop Farm
Carroll G. MD
Merry Stinson 4/03
MD 15HPO
barn: Wiselers.

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PTATE:	CODE	+	OUNTY:		5005
STATE:	CODE	٦,	OUNTY		CODE
	CODE	-	OUNTY.		
STATE:	CODE	٦,	OUNTY:		CODE
	4	+			
STATE:	CODE	-l °	COUNTY:		CODE
		1.			L
II. FORM PREPARED BY					
ORGANIZATION RIVOVES				DATE	
MHT				3/71	
CTREET AND MUNICIPAL				77.	
Annapolis					
CITY OR TOWN:		Ts-	TATE		CODE
CITT ON TOWN.			Mid.		
12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	y .	+	NATIONAL REGISTE	D VEDIEICATION	
12. STATE CHAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	•	+	NATIONAL REGISTE	R VERIFICATION	
As the designated State Liaison Officer for t	the Na-		I hereby certify that this pre	anastu ja jaaludad	in the
tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Pu	blic Law		PALLONDON CONTROL DE MANTE PARTE EN LE MANTE PARTE DE LA PARTE	operty is included	in the
89-665), I hereby nominate this property for i	inclusion		National Register.		
in the National Register and certify that it h	as been	1		*	
evaluated according to the criteria and proce	edures set			35	
forth by the National Park Service. The rece	ommended		Chief, Office of Archeology		
level of significance of this nomination is:			Chief, Office of Archeology	and Historic Pres	ervation
National State Loca	1 🗆				
			Date		
Name		-	ATTEST:		
			ATTEST:		
Title	~	.			
			Keeper of The N	ational Register	
Date			Date		